

# FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

CITIZENS SERVICES BUILDING

401 Sagner Ave.

Frederick, MD 21701

## **Minutes of the May 28, 2019 Meeting**

- I. The meeting was held at Winchester Hall, and called to order by Chair Mari Lee. An invitation was extended to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. The following members were present: Mari Lee, Lisa Clark, Roger Sobkowiak, Francisco Alves, Irene Packer-Halsey, Marguerite Vacca-Kaye, Paula Glascoe, and Chris Isleib. City of Frederick Liaison member Ben MacShane, FPD Lt. Joe Hayer and FPD Officer Kevin Forrest, Betsy Day, and HRC applicants Cindy Shubin and Desiree Tucker were present.
- III. Betsy Day, the President and CEO of The Community Foundation of Frederick County was the guest speaker. She explained that the foundation holds more than 750 endowment funds for charitable purposes. Some of these funds leave spending decisions up to the foundation's grants committee. The Community Foundation recently published a new needs assessment report that identified a number of priorities, including families with children who are under stress, the need to prepare for an aging population, and substance abuse disorders. The foundation has frequently supported grant funding requests to promote diversity and inclusion, affordable housing and LGBTQ disenfranchised youth.
- IV. Irene Packer-Halsey moved, and Chris Isleib seconded, to approve the HRC's March and April 2019 meeting minutes. The vote in favor was unanimous.
- V. Lisa Clark moved, and Marguerite Vacca-Kaye seconded, to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to appoint Desiree Tucker and Cindy Shubin to the HRC. The vote in favor was unanimous, and this recommendation will be transmitted to the office of the County Executive.
- VI. Mari Lee brought forth a request to support Community Living, Inc., which works with people with disabilities. Discussion took place about donating

\$100 to help with a fall fundraising event. Members asked if the HRC logo would be on the flyers and program materials, and if the HRC could get a copy of the program when it is completed. Lisa Clark moved, and Marguerite Vacca-Kaye seconded, to donate \$100, subject to the conditions mentioned. The vote to approve was 7 in favor and 1 opposed.

## VII. Executive Committee Report

- a. A brief summary of the Executive Committee meeting was given.
- b. Treasurer's Report

It was reported that there is currently \$2,100 on hand, and the HRC should give serious consideration to making any necessary purchases before the fiscal year ends on June 30. Mari Lee said that she and several other members will review the HRC's needs and make a decision.

## VIII. Standing Committee Reports

CRC - The CRC is planning several upcoming forums. Chris Isleib will work with Asbury Church to coordinate.

GRC – Roger Sobkowiak expressed concerns on behalf of the GRC about flaws in The Community Foundation's needs assessment report, bias in law enforcement activities, and recent racist markings on a bridge and on a stop sign.

## IX. New Business

The nominating committee presented the following slate of officers, which will be voted on at the June 25 meeting:

Chair: Mari Lee  
Vice Chair: Lisa Clark  
Treasurer: Annette Breiling  
Parliamentarian: Chris Isleib  
Member at Large: Lee Whisner

Mari Lee thanked Roger Sobkowiak for his work contacting members to prepare the nominating committee report.

This year's Asbury Church Block Party will take place on Saturday, June 29, 2019 on E. All Saints Street. HRC will have a table at this event.

Frederick Pride will take place on June 22 along Carroll Creek in downtown Frederick. More than 8,000 visitors are anticipated to attend. The HRC has again designated this as a quarterly day of service project, and all members are encouraged to go online and sign up to work a shift to make this another successful event.

Council bills adding sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination protection to the Frederick County Code will soon go before the County Council for public hearing and testimony. HRC members should stay alert in case it becomes necessary to muster public support in emails, letters and testimony.

An Immigrant Heritage Month proclamation will be issued at City Hall; the date under discussion is June 5 at 3 pm.

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner intends to issue a Juneteenth proclamation in June. HRC members will be notified. Please try to attend.

- X. Members who chose to do so made brief final comments.
- XI. The meeting was adjourned.